

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Uzbekistan
Program Title:	Democratic Culture and Institutions
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	122-0211
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$4,270,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$3,087,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$7,216,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Completion Date:	2005

Summary: USAID is creating stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increasing the availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues; and increasing opportunities for citizen participation in governance. Supplemental funding was critical and essential to expanding the human rights and civic advocacy portfolios and initiatives in judicial reform, local government, and civic education. Prior year unobligated funds include \$2,740,000 of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Political process (\$1,326,735 FSA). To bolster rule of law in Uzbekistan, USAID will launch a judicial reform program to train judges, disseminate legal information, and institute a court administration program. The existing legal reform activity will train legal professionals, overhaul the curriculum at Tashkent State Law Institute, conduct continuing legal education for advocates, and train law students on oral and written advocacy. A small amount of funds will be used to augment the work of the Institute's new human rights law clinic. In support of local government reform, USAID will provide technical assistance, training, and grants to housing associations, NGOs advocating for housing reform, and local governments. Principal implementing partners are: the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (prime), Urban Institute (prime), and others to be determined through competition.

Civil society (\$2,072,123 FSA). With supplemental funds, USAID will launch the next phase of its flagship civil society program with primary emphasis on supporting a network of at least seven civil society support centers. USAID's assistance will include training and resources to strengthen the financial and institutional sustainability of these centers. Additionally, USAID will train NGOs to implement advocacy campaigns at the local and national levels. USAID will also provide grants to support up to four national advocacy campaigns. Also as part of its civil society program, USAID will train at least 75 human rights defenders on strategic planning, monitoring, legal advice, and public outreach; provide grants to local human rights organizations; and establish a Human Rights NGO resource center in the Ferghana Valley. Principal implementing partners are Counterpart International (prime), the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (sub), Freedom House (prime) and others to be determined through competition.

Media & information (\$871,142 FSA). USAID will support management and technical training for non-governmental television stations. A full-time legal advisor will continue to provide legal consultation to non-governmental broadcast and print media outlets, ensuring that they are in compliance with the law so that the Government is not able to easily shut them down. A print media advisor will continue to provide training and support to print journalists to upgrade the quality of reporting. Furthermore, FY 2003 funds will be used to support two new information initiatives. USAID will launch a new anti-trafficking activity in Uzbekistan. Since Uzbekistan is one of the few countries not listed on the State Department's Trafficking in Persons list due to lack of verifiable data, the new program will focus on educating the public on the

dangers associated with trafficking. The other new initiative is a civic education project that will introduce new teaching methodologies as well as promote tolerance, advocacy, and pluralism in public schools. Debate clubs, student governance, and summer camps are specific activities under this civic education project. Principal implementing partners are: Internews (prime), the International Center for Journalists (sub), Soros Foundation (sub), and others to be determined through competition.

FY 2004 Program:

Political process (\$2,960,000 FSA). USAID will continue to foster the rule of law through its judicial and legal reform programs. In local government, USAID will continue its condominium reform program, possibly expanding into other areas of local government reform to help municipalities to become more transparent and responsive to citizens.

Civil society (\$2,595,000 FSA). USAID will continue to provide a comprehensive range of assistance to strengthen non-governmental organizations' capacity for advocacy, sustainability, community-based constituency building, and organizational development. Support will continue for the civic advocacy program and the human rights defenders project.

Media & information (\$1,661,000 FSA). USAID will continue to increase the quality of information available to the public; enhance the financial and editorial independence of print and broadcast media outlets; and improve the legal environment in which the media operates. USAID may expand its civic education efforts to additional schools, depending on performance. Anti-trafficking efforts may be expanded to include work on anti-trafficking legislation and enforcement of this legislation.

Performance and Results: The democracy program portfolio grew enormously during 2002 due to increased funding. Supplemental funds permitted USAID to expand into hard-hitting democracy areas such as human rights and civic advocacy. Supplemental funds also allowed USAID to launch several initiatives in judicial reform, local government, and civic education. Supplemental funds also bolstered existing legal and media reform. With additional funding and new opportunities for democratic reform, USAID pushed for change last year and produced some noteworthy results, the most visible of which is the new Freedom House Resource Center in Tashkent, which provides training, human rights information resources, meeting facilities, and legal services to human rights NGOs, jointly funded with Department of State's Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL). All seven of the USAID-supported civil society support centers (CSSCs) were officially registered last year. These CSSCs provide training seminars, technical support, information resources, networking opportunities, and professional services to NGOs and associations. The importance of these CSSCs cannot be overlooked. For instance, the number of NGOs in Samarkand Province tripled (from 30 to 90) in the last year since the opening of the Civil Society Support Center. Another highlight of USAID's work in Uzbekistan is the opening of a new human rights law clinic at Tashkent State University. The clinical program focuses on providing pro-bono legal advice on in-country residency restrictions issues, freedom of movement cases, and government-sanctioned discrimination based on gender, origin, ethnicity, or language. Clinical students also receive instruction from human rights advocates and international scholars on a wide-range of human rights-related subjects. DRL funds this program, and USAID manages it. USAID provided training to Osiyo-TV, a new independent station in the Bukhara Region, which aired its first broadcast in January. As a result of the director's participation in USAID-funded journalism seminars, he launched his own television station that facilitates communication between the town's citizens and its government. The station airs a 2 ½-hour live call-in show for the community to interact with the mayor's office, judicial leaders, and local education and health board representatives. Citizens now have an opportunity to voice their concerns and actively participate in discussions on the town's management.

By program's end, there will be stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increased availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues; enhanced opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Uzbekistan

122-0211 Democratic Culture and Institutions	FSA
Through September 30, 2001	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2002*	
Obligations	5,896
Expenditures	420
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	5,896
Expenditures	420
Unliquidated	5,476
Prior Year Unobligated Funds**	
Obligations	3,087
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA	
Obligations	4,270
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	7,357
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	7,216
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	20,469

*Fiscal Year 2002 includes \$1.7m of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.

**Prior Year Unobligated Funds includes \$2.74m of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.